

Amendments to the Drawings:

In response to the October 31, 2008 Office Action, the attached sheets of formal drawings are replacement sheets (7 sheets) to Figures 1A-6B. These formal sheets, which include Figures 1A-6B, replace the original informal sheets. In addition, reference number "20" that refers to the step entitled "GENERATE PRINT FILE" of FIG. 4B has been changed to reference number --19-- to be consistent with the above amendment to the specification.

Attachment: 7 Replacement Sheets (FIGS. 1A-6B)
 1 Annotated Sheet (sheet 5/7) Showing Changes to Fig. 4B

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated October 31, 2008, claims 26-27 have been amended. Since claims 1-25 and 28-32 were withdrawn from consideration in previous amendments, claims 26-27 are in the case. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

Objection to the Drawings

The Office Action objected to the drawings as being informal and required new formal drawings.

In response to the objection of the drawings for being informal, the attached sheets of formal drawings are replacement pages to Figures 1A-6B. These formal sheets, which include Figures 1A-6B, replace the original informal sheets. In addition, reference number "20" that refers to the step entitled "GENERATE PRINT FILE" of FIG. 4B has been changed to reference number --19-- to be consistent with the above amendment to the specification.

Claim Objections

The Office Action objected to claim 25 as having an incorrect status.

In response, the Applicants have corrected the status to claim 25 as cancelled.

The Office Action objected to claim 27 as having insufficient antecedent basis.

In response, the Applicants have amended claim 27 to correct the antecedent basis as suggested by the Examiner.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Office Action rejected claims 26-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Kanaya et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,517,175).

The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and submit that the cited reference does not disclose all of the elements of the Applicants' newly amended independent claims.

The Applicants' newly amended independent claims now include that the pattern reader is an external digital pen configured to read the location pattern and write using human readable ink when operated by a user. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification, and in particular, in paragraph [0084] of the Applicants' specification as originally filed.

In contrast, Kanaya et al. simply disclose monitoring residual quality of ink and measuring ink density using an internal optical sensor. Although Kanaya et al. disclose correcting a product of the measured weight of a single ink droplet and the counted number of ink droplets using ink supply conditions (see Abstract of Kanaya et al.), Kanaya et al. clearly does not use an external digital pen configured to read the location pattern and write using human readable ink, like the Applicants' independent claims. Instead, Kanaya et al. uses an internal "optical sensor 38" to "measure the ink density" (see col. 30, lines 48-54 of Kanaya et al.), unlike the Applicants' external digital pen.

Thus, since Kanaya et al. does not disclose all of the Applicants' claimed features, Kanaya et al. cannot anticipate the claims. As such, the Applicant kindly requests withdrawal of the anticipation rejection.

Further, with regard to the dependent claims, since they depend from the above-argued respective independent claims, they are therefore patentable on the same basis. (MPEP § 2143.03). As such, withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of the claims is respectfully requested.

Thus, it is respectfully requested that all of the claims be allowed based on the amendments and arguments. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. Additionally, in an effort to further the prosecution of the subject application, the Applicants kindly requests the Examiner to telephone the Applicant's attorney at (818) 885-1575. Please note that all mail correspondence should continue to be directed to:

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P.O. Box 272400
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Respectfully submitted,
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